Greater funding in higher education

578. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan panel has suggested greater funding in higher education and also increase in fees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the suggestion is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission, in its Mid-term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan has, *inter alia*, observed that 'in order to provide more resources for increasing access and improving quality, apart from a substantial increase in public funding increasing the fees paid by students is equally necessary.' However, the Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on Financing of Higher and Technical Education, while recommending increase in public investments in higher education, has observed that students fees as percentage of revenues of higher educational institutions cannot be above a threshold level of 20 per cent, so that higher education is affordable.

While there is no proposal to increase student fees, the Plan Outlay for the University Grants Commission has been increased to Rs. 1269.80 crores for the year 2006-07 from Rs. 786.30 crores during the year 2005-06, which is an increase of around 61 per cent.

Allocation for higher education

579. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC has requested for enhancing the allocation for higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to upgrade at least one university in each State to the grade of central university; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia,* indicating the university that is proposed to be upgraded to a central university in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Plan Allocation to the University Grants Commission has been increased to Rs. 1269.80 crores during 2006-07 from Rs. 786.30 crores during the year 2005-06. The break up is as follows:—

(i)	Central Universities in North Eastern Region	—	Rs. 122.96 crores
(ii)	Other Central Universities	—	Rs. 392.04 crores
(iii)	State University of the North Eastern Region	—	Rs. 7.37 crores
(iv)	Other Universities and Inter University Centres etc.	—	Rs. 747.43 crores
	TOTAL:		Rs. 1269.80 crores

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

Fake certificates for admission

580. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instances have come to notice that certain students seeking admission in degree courses of various universities submitted fake certificates for getting admission on relaxed standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof and touts involved in such rackets; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent admission on fake certificates in various universities in this academic year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants